Ridding defence procurement of corruption

1092. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sought the assistance of a German NGO Transparency International to help it combat corruption;

(b) the measures suggested to rid defence procurement of corruption; and

(c) the action taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Transparency International, a well known International Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) has been striving towards building up world-wide opinion in favour of transparency in Government dealings. The Organisation has evolved the concept of an 'Integrity Pact' between a Buyer and a Seller committing both to fair practices in their dealings. The Ministry of Defence had invited Mr. Michel Wiehen of Transparency International to explain the concept of the 'Integrity Pact'. He visited India in August, 2001 and gave a presentation on the subject.

Some of the elements of the 'Integrity Pact' are already included in the Contracts entered into by the Ministry of Defence. It has been the constant endeavour of the Ministry to refine the defence procurement process and the interaction held with Transparency International was a part of this process.

Contracts for defence equipments with Israel

1093. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had signed contracts with Israel worth $2 billion for defence equipments; and

(b) if so, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) India has been signing contracts with